



Christmas Newsletter

Madras College Newsletter

December 2011

Rector's Note

The end of this term brings with it a rush of events and activities and represents one of the busiest times in the school calendar. Assessments, prelims, work experience, college and university applications, shows, concerts and festive parties create an end to the term that is hectic and enjoyable.

The Christmas and the New Year period is a time for reflection, for celebration and for looking forward. This newsletter illustrates some of the many successes that we have enjoyed since the session began. It is an opportunity for us to be proud of what has been achieved and for all of us to share in our many successes. I am pleased that we are able to continue with our regular diary page in the Citizen. This continues to be an effective, popular means of celebrating our achievements, providing information about the school and highlighting forthcoming events.

A Portrait of Madras College is the result of a unique partnership between the school, photographer Peter Adamson and editor Lorn Macintyre. The book records in pictures and text a year in the life of the school, from the new S1 arriving in August to the S6 ball. This is a truly unique publication with superb images, an attractive, modern design and a wealth of captions, comment and stories. Copies are available from the school, JG Innes and Waterstones.

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A Portrait of Madras College



Pictured L to R: Lorn Macintyre, Ian Jones (Rector) and Peter Adamson

Fundraising 2011/12	
MacMillan Cancer Support	£270.77
Breast Cancer	£1,500
Help for Heroes	£35
Poppy Appeal	£393.88
Children in Need	£1,122
Children 1st	£320
Pike Miner Recovery	£130

On Friday 2nd December a number of invited guests gathered in the South Street Library to celebrate the launch of 'A Portrait of Madras College'.

Many thanks to all those who made it an enjoyable occasion and a special thank you to our Hospitality pupils and teachers who provided a delicious buffet.

All staff also had the opportunity to celebrate the launch of 'A Portrait of Madras College' on Tuesday 13th December at a meeting in Kilrymont Road. Once again Peter Adamson and Lorn Macintyre kindly made themselves available to sign copies of their book.

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Consultation under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 began on 1 December 2011 and will run until 10 February 2012. This is a public consultation on the proposal to provide a single site school for Madras College on the site at Kilrymont, St Andrews by remodelling the existing listed building and providing newly built accommodation and facilities. Relevant papers have been distributed and I would urge you to make your view known either by completing and returning the consultation document, or online at: www.fifedirect.org.uk/haveyoursay.

On behalf of the staff and pupils I wish you a happy Christmas and a relaxing holiday in preparation for what I know will be a busy and fulfilling New Year.

La Jaus

The French Exchange

In September 39 pupils and four members of staff Mrs McCartney, Mrs Maix, Mr Grewar and Mr Duncan set off on the second leg of the exchange in France, having hosted the French group in June. This time we went by plane to Paris and coach to Poitiers. The congestion on the périphérique (ring road) allowed us the opportunity to see some of Paris and our brilliant drivers took us to the Louvre and down the Champs-Élysées, an unexpected bonus!

The stay in Poitiers went really well and included a morning in school, a tour of Poitiers, a visit to La Rochelle and the aquarium, visits to Chenonceau and Villandry, two of the chateaux in the Loire and finished with a visit to Futuroscope- the cinematic theme park on the outskirts of Poitiers.

We are already looking forward to the next exchange in 2013.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Euroscola

European Parliament Visit

Lyle McAdam (S6) was chosen by The Rotary Club, St Andrews, to represent Madras College in the Euroscola programme which involves a visit to the European Parliament in February. This visit will involve debates in the parliament, street surveys and interacting with young people from all around Europe.

Mrs McCartney (Principal Teacher Curriculum Modern Languages) was nominated and selected to be one of the teachers with the Scottish group of 26 pupils.

55th Kiel Exchange

Preparations are already underway for the 55th exchange visit. Twelve new recruits from S3 and seven S4 pupils who hosted their German partners in June will travel to Kiel in June 2012.

Staff News

Cathy Hoy of the Modern Languages department gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Eloise Catherine, in September. Both are doing well.

UK-German Youth Ambassador Scheme

Eleanor Cruickshank (S6) recently applied to become a UK-German Youth Ambassador and was delighted to hear that her application had been successful. The scheme, organised by the UK-German Connection, aims to raise awareness of the German language and of German culture. In November, Eleanor attended a weekend conference in London where she met other UK-German Youth Ambassadors from all over the UK. Eleanor plans to start a project with S2 pupils early next term.

HSBC Mandarin Speaking Competition

Four S5 pupils from our senior Mandarin class went on a trip to Newcastle on 6th December for the yearly HSBC Mandarin Speaking Competition. The competition was organised by the British Council – which builds relationships for the UK through English, Education and Culture, and already links around 43,000 pupils and teachers in the UK and China. It is supported by the HSBC Global Education Programme – which focuses on international understanding, disadvantaged children, financial literacy, and environmental education.

The competition supports and promotes the teaching of Mandarin Chinese as a modern foreign language in UK schools. Now in its ninth year, the competition attracted a record number of learners eager to prove their Chinese skills. Regional heats are taking place in London and Newcastle, with only the best being invited to attend the final – where they could win a visit to China.

Congratulations goes to our four S5 pupils, Corinna Rengger, Hannah Gray, Emily Macduff and Nicole Learmonth. They did an amazing performance based on the two pandas coming to Edinburgh. They definitely did Madras proud. A special thank you to Corinna Rengger who wrote the script, chose the music and even painted the Panda faces.

Active Schools

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Active Schools Co-ordinator for Madras Collage. My role is to offer all young people the motivation and opportunities to 'get active' in school and the wider community. In practice, this means I am looking to increase the number of opportunities for all young people to get engaged in sport and physical activity at lunch times, after school and in the local community. To achieve this we have introduced a number of programmes and initiatives such as:

- **Madras School Sports Fair**

So far this term we have introduced a number of new developments across Madras College. We began with the introduction of the new Sports Fair which provided the opportunity for local sports clubs and after school clubs to promote their opportunities to S1-S3 pupils.

- **Active Schools Ambassador Programme**

We have recruited three young people from both 5th and 6th year to become Active Schools Ambassadors for Madras College. The young ambassadors will have a pivotal role within the school and wider community. We are looking for them to be advocates, role models and leaders, and drive opportunity and engagement in sport and physical activity for other young people. The three senior pupils who have been recruited are Kirsty Duncan and William Greig (S6) and Tamara Levy (S5).

The programme focuses on the importance of the Olympic and Paralympic Values – respect, friendship, personal excellence, courage, determination, inspiration and equality, which are imperative in everyday life.

The Ambassador programme also makes a significant contribution to volunteering and leadership by giving pupils the chance to inspire, mentor and support other young people. Some examples of what they will be working on include establishing extra curricular clubs, organising festivals, recruiting peers to lead activities, and encouraging more girls to participate.

- **Sports and Recreation Course**

Pupils attending the sport and recreation course have also been given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills by completing a number of introductory sports specific coaching awards. Some of the awards included

this year are Rugby Ready, Sports Leader Day Certificate, TOP Play/Sport and Basketball/Hockey workshops. All pupils attending this Sport and Recreation course are now taking part in a primary school work placement once a week where they get the chance to lead activities with primary school children.

- **Extra Curricular Clubs**

Madras College offers a wide range of extra curricular sports clubs such as Badminton, Rugby, Tennis, Basketball Hockey, Netball, Dance, Cheerleading, Football and a Running Club. For more information on all sports and activities available please visit the school website.

- **Future Events and Programmes for Term 3**

Sports Leaders Level 2 will be re-introduced as a Senior School Elective Programme. The Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership is a nationally recognised qualification that enables successful learners to lead groups of people in sport or activity.

The Sports Leader UK, young Leader Award will also be available to 1st and 2nd year pupils starting in February. Community Sports Clubs will be invited to provide taster sessions for pupils at lunchtimes providing information and a pathway for further participation in sport in the community.

If you would like more information on Active Schools or would like to get involved please contact:

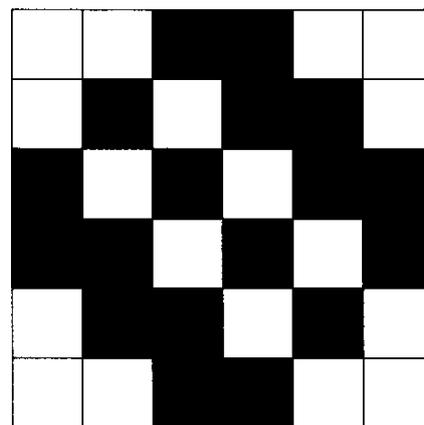
James Fenna
Active Schools Co-ordinator
Madras College
Kilrymont Raod
St Andrews
KY168DE

Tel: 08451 555555 ext. 493941
email: James.fenna@Fife.gov.uk

Mathematics Contest

Congratulations go to Andrew Hay (S3) who provided the correct answer to the S3/4 maths contest problem shown below. There is still time to enter this term's contest for S1/2, S3/4 and S5/6. The questions are on the school website.

How many squares, of all sizes, are more black than white in the diagram below?



The answer is a palindromic triangular number.

Staffing

This term we welcomed the following staff to Madras College:

Mr Seeley, Principal Teacher Curriculum Physical Education Health and Wellbeing; Mr Robertson Principal Teacher Curriculum Social Subjects; Mr Runciman, Principal Teacher Biology; Ms Weir, Principal Teacher Business Management; Miss Macnab, Drama Teacher; Miss Kotrys, Mathematics Teacher, Mrs Boyd, Support for Learning Teacher and Miss Logan Modern Languages (Probationer Teacher); Mr Bolton, Mr Dow and Miss Ritchie, Technicians and Mrs Docherty as Clerical Officer.

Mrs McLaren, Support for Learning Teacher, returned from maternity leave in October.

Our grateful thanks once again to the supply staff who have worked with us this term.



Drama



This has been an exceptionally active term in the Drama department. We have run several trips: the Advanced Higher went to see the wonderfully funny *One Man, Two Guvnors* at The Kings Theatre. We returned to the Kings with a much larger group of Highers and Advanced Highers to see a harrowing Performance of *Men Should Weep*. We also embraced Curriculum For Excellence by arranging to take the second years who have chosen to do Drama this year, all 120 of them, to see *Aladdin* at The Byre Theatre. This trip took place on Thursday 15th December and was enjoyed by pupils and staff. On the following day 80 S4 pupils also enjoyed this show.

On our own front, the Highers and Advanced Highers performed their own devised dramas over a marathon few days. One night saw an evening of Drama that began at 5.00 pm and came down at 10.00 pm. Some hardy enthusiasts stayed for the whole course and thanks to them!

The term kicked off excitingly with Lydia Upton and Finlay Paul (S4) and Jacob Brown (S3) accompanied by Mrs Esler going off to the BBC in Glasgow to take part in the BBC Shakespeare Off By Heart Competition. They had a fantastic day and the experience has spurred us on to consider doing our own internal Shakespeare competition after the prelims in January/February.

This session the Drama Department's Christmas performance was Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. This involved a cast of over 30 pupils, Ramskeerie the folk group, with sixth years painting the backdrop and much staff, office and janitorial generous support and good humour. Thank you to all who took part in this production and as Tiny Tim would say 'Merry Christmas and God bless us everyone'!

Madras Business Enterprise Fundraising

This term we in the Madras Business Enterprise have been fundraising by doing various different activities.

We sold lots of lovely vegetables to school staff that the Eco-Schools had grown and made £59.00. We also collected items for the Rag Bag and raised a fantastic £50.90. We collected DVD's and CD's to send away to Music Magpie and they sent us a cheque for £57.84. Lastly we have been collecting cans in school, and made a brilliant £24.60.

So in total this term, Madras Business Enterprise has raised £192.34. All the money raised is going to be split between three causes – DAS, Eco-Schools and the Namibia project.

We'd like to thank everyone who has contributed in any way, whether it was bringing in cans or handing in things for the Rag Bag – we appreciate everyone's help.

Alastair Montgomery (S4)

Pipe Band

The Pipe Band's opening event of this school year was a conference (Britain in Bloom national awards, 25th September 2011) at The Fairmont Hotel, St Andrews, where Pipe-Major Connor Burgess led the Pipe Band in welcoming 300 guests arriving in unseasonably cold and windy weather. The following weekend the Pipe Band gathered at the Golf Links Clubhouse and played to a large spectator gallery, marching up from the beach end of Granny Clark's Wynd to the 18th green on the Old Course. This is the seventh year that the Pipe Band has played at this event, the Alfred Dunhill Links Golf Championship prizegiving, which is broadcast internationally.



Marching off the 18th Green, Old Course, St Andrews
Bass drummer and Side drummers

Photo Courtesy of Pete Bracegirdle

On 26th November 2011, the Pipe Band stopped the traffic and led the St Andrews Day Procession from South Street around the town, despite gale force winds and the cancellation of the torches for what should have been a torchlit procession. Later that evening, after re-assembling and warming up, the Pipe Band made their way down to the New Golf Club, where they delivered a stirring performance in memory of the late Dr David Malcom, former teacher at Madras College. Pipe-Sergeant Jamie Gillan received the St Andrews Day Piper Award at this event. The Pipe Band also performed at the open evening earlier in November for P6/7 and S1, and conducted a workshop afterwards. In addition, two pipers played guests into dinner for the Education Conference at The Fairmont this month.

A mini-Band performed at The Fairmont again on 1st December 2011 for a presentation event, where Madras College Pipe Band received a cheque from the 'Midsummer's Ball' charity towards piping/drumming tuition costs. On 14th December 2011, at the Christmas concert, some members of the Pipe Band played alternative instruments to deliver a performance jointly with Scottish small pipes, and four of the strongest pipers added impressive sound to the final concert item, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, along with the Wind Band and the audience in full voice.

The Pipe Band is now preparing for the Burns Supper in January 2012, and a number of solo pipers are to enter the national heats for the annual national Burns competition, where they have been very successful in previous years.

S1 Curriculum for Excellence Themed Fortnight



From Monday 28th November until Friday 9th December all pupils in S1 participated in a Scottish themed fortnight where many of the lessons taught focussed on St Andrews and our nation. This was a great opportunity for pupils to see how learning in one subject connects with learning in another subject. Teachers planned creative and engaging lessons around this theme and feedback from pupils suggests that they enjoyed the challenge of learning in this way.

Here are just some examples of the lessons on offer through the fortnight:

In Mathematics, pupils used ratio to draw Scottish Flags. In Physical Education they participated in Highland Games. There was a Piping Masterclass on offer in Music. In English they read Scottish Poetry and in Religious and Moral Education created stained glass windows based on the story of St Andrews.

The fortnight finished with an opportunity for S1 to display and reflect on their work followed by a ceilidh hosted by Mr Munn. Staff and pupils commented on the skillful dancing and on the high level of pupil participation in a relaxed, positive and exciting atmosphere.

S2

Business Education

Since June, all S2 Business Education students have been facing and rising to the challenges of running and marketing a small business enterprise.

The culminations of their efforts will be seen at the Trade Fair where all groups will be selling their products in the hope of making a profit.

All groups have been competing with each other in tasks such as creating a business logo, advertising leaflet and attractive trade stand.

The results of the competition will be announced early in the New Year.

Young Enterprise

They started late in the term but this year's Young Enterprise Group, Veg from the Hedge, represented Madras College well at the Fife Area Board Trade Fair in Glenrothes on Friday 2 December.

The group, including Leo Gordon and Stephanie Warne (S5) and Joanna Currie (S6), aims to promote healthy eating and the use of local produce by sourcing a range of fresh vegetables from farms in North-east Fife.

Annual Burns Competition

On Thursday 1st December our annual Burns Competition took place, with pupils from S1 – S6 competing in recitation and singing. Well done to all who participated and many thanks to the judges from the St Andrews Burns Club. The competition will continue in January with the Senior Girls who were unable to participate in December. The prizewinners were:

Recitation			Singing		
Senior Boys	1st	Rory White	S1 Girls	1st	Chloe Anderson
	2nd equal	Geir Darge Paul Thompson	S1 Boys	1st	Keir Little
Senior Girls	1st	Courtney Gardiner	S2 Boys and Girls	1st	Carmen Teppett
	2nd	Katrina Himpson	S3/4 Girls	1st	Joanna Stark
S1	1st	Dayna Clark	S 3/4 Boys	1st	Cameron Quate
S2	1st	Keela Anderson	S5/6 Boys	1st	Liam Vincent-Kilbride
			S5/6 Boys	2nd equal	Rory Lamb Paul Sinclair

Eco club News

After a really enjoyable time bonding at Glen Tilt at the beginning of the term, we've been really busy with all sorts of activities this year. We've had a bumper harvest from the gardens and a greater variety of crops than ever before despite the dry Spring. We've also been lucky to have been involved in lots of activities throughout the town. We're helping out with the new Travel Action Plan for the school. We've formed contacts with the university Estates department, we are exploring the possibility of working with the Links Trust next year and we've deepened our relationship with the community council.

James Primmer (S4), Chairman

• Eco-Congregation Presentation

The Eco-Club were invited to speak at Hope Park Church hall to a group of young people and adults from the local community about our achievements to date. The invitation was sent by Mrs Grace Morris, former head of Dunino Primary School who obviously knew our representatives. James Primmer impressed everyone with his presentation which described all the hard work we've done to achieve our two Green Flags. A number of primary head teachers, teachers, parents and primary school pupils were in the audience and it was a great way to find out what's been going on in each of the schools. Mrs Morris was very impressed by it and has invited us to attend the next St Andrews young person Eco-Congregation meeting next year.

Ryan Smith S6

• Compost Corner

We now have nine compost bins situated among our three gardens. All our gardens' organic waste material is recycled within the school. We're also experimenting with three tumble composters which seem to accelerate compost production. We were fortunate enough to be visited by Frank McTavish from Anniesland College in October. Frank gave our KR group lots of advice on how to compost and also donated some activated wood chips for one of our tumble composters. It's early days yet, but the Eco-Club is hoping to become self-sufficient and increasingly use more organic soil treatments. We're also keen to introduce a wormery into one of the gardens after the winter and Niki McDonald at the Botanic Gardens will be helping us out here too.

Mae Williamson S1

• Barking Mad!

Bill Close and Barbara Aitken from the university Estates department visited the

school in September to have a look at our achievements and have a chat with Mr Waterston regarding the new Travel Action Plan's Bike Scheme. They also made a presentation to our senior Eco-Club members about their work, after which there was an informal chat about how we could help each other. We hope to be working with the university early next year with some of their gardening work and to be shown around some of the areas which interested our group. Mr Close organised about 5 tonnes of freshly prepared bark to be delivered to both our KR and SS gardens. Both Eco-Clubs, the DAS and Home Economics staff all took part in relayering our gardens which now look as good as new. It was generous of them to donate the bark like this and we really do appreciate it. We're looking forward to continuing our work together in the New Year.

Kathleen Pritchard S2

• Jubilee Woods

To celebrate the Queen's 2012 Diamond Jubilee, woods are being planted all around the UK. The St Andrews Community Council decided to plant their one on St Andrews Day itself.



About 500 trees were planted by people from all walks of life in a few short hours that afternoon. Members of our Eco-Clubs were of course there and having had lots of practice in and around the school, the Botanic garden and Stanks Park; they were there to assist and provide first-class support and advice.

The new Jubilee wood is situated along the Kinness Burn behind the cemetery on the outskirts of St Andrews. The activity was filmed by an STV camera crew and was broadcast, along with other St Andrews Day activities that evening. We were really lucky with the weather and it was great fun.

Maud Wolf S4

• Please sort your rubbish out!

The Eco-Club have managed to acquire a lot of new bins to recycle cans and plastic bottles. We've been placing these strategically around the school. Could we please ask that everyone help us out by putting rubbish in the correct bin.

As well as making the school a nicer place to be in, it also helps us to raise money more easily for our various environmental projects and the Namibia trip. The Eco-Club and DAS are now working together to design some presentations for assemblies at the beginning of the new year which should help promote better attitudes towards our litter management. Madras College now recycles paper, aluminium and steel cans, garden waste and old clothes. We are beginning to raise a little bit of money from the cans and clothes and all monies are going towards helping with the Namibia trip and various other projects throughout the school. This term we managed to raise about £200!

Jonas Neukirch S5

• Lets Grow Vouchers

We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone for helping us collect 6,503 Morrisons 'Let's Grow' vouchers this year! We've ordered lots of materials which should arrive just before Spring, including seeds, bulbs, tubers, pots, propagators, nets, nutrients and tools. This is a record number which we hope to improve on next year.

Fiona Powrie S4

Gold Medal Swimming Success

Madras DAS pupils returned from Lochgelly High School last week with an amazing haul of 6 gold medals along with personal best times for every single member of the 10 strong team.

The success was achieved at the 42nd Annual Disability Sport Fife Gala and represents the school's best ever set of results. The pupils have trained hard all session and 2 of the gold medal winners were actually non-swimmers when they arrived at Madras.

Not only were the results exceptional but the pupils were commended on the sportsmanship, support and behaviour.

The team were Scott Cavin (captain), Daniel Shields, Karen Adamson, Leah Gray, Joyce Law, John Law, Jon Duffy, John Mair, Daniel Wright and Dean Baird.

Disability Scotland National Championships

Seven pupils from DAS had the honour of representing Fife in the Disability Scotland National Championships in Glasgow. All the pupils made it to the final of their event. Although only one gold medal was won, thanks to Joyce Law in the 50 m backstroke, all the pupils now know what they need to strive for in future swimming sessions. There were three personal best times for Scott Cavin, Karen Adamson and Leah Gray. Well done to the whole team.

Fife Schools' Swimming Results

Well done to medallists Beth Constance (S1) who won Gold; Sophie Pettegree (S2), Angelia Teto (S2) and Finlay McLean (S6) Silver, and Ross Keracher (S5) Bronze.

12-13 years	Sophie Pettegree	100 m Breast Stroke	2nd
		100 m Back Crawl	5th
	Angelia Teto	100 m Butterfly	2nd
		100 m Front Crawl	5th
	Emma Sharratt	100 m Front Crawl	4th
		100 m Butterfly	4th
200 m Front Crawl		4th	
Beth Constance	100 m Back Crawl	4th	
	100 m Breast Stroke	5th	
	200 m Back Crawl	1st	
Caitlin Sparks	100 m Breast Stroke	6th	
	100 m Indiv. Medley	4th	
14-15 years	Laura Mcinnes	200 m Back Crawl	4th
16+ years	Elaine Cairns	100 m Back Crawl	5th
		100 m Breast Stroke	5th
	Finlay McLean	200 m Breast Stroke	2nd
		Ross Keracher	200 m Breast Stroke

Nuffield Success

Congratulations to S6 pupils Meghan Brown and Lewis Crawford who undertook the Nuffield Foundation Award. This programme allows successful pupils to undertake a paid placement at an academic or industrial institution to undertake real Scientific research. Both Meghan and Lewis spent 6 weeks at the University of St Andrews working with world renowned academics. Meghan's research was on Measuring Harmonic Distortion through comparing the Exponential Sine Sweep and Wide Noise Response methods, Lewis' research was on using Quick Response (QR) Codes to provide web-based Geospatial information. As well as presenting their work at the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh, they were also awarded the national Gold CREST award. Well done!

Planetarium

Pupils from the Physics Department were treated to a night under the stars during the daytime, courtesy of a mobile planetarium! The pupils were given a talk on the constellations seen in the sky as well as the life cycle of a star. There were some excellent questions asked about life on other planets and how far away the nearest galaxy is. No one seemed to panic when we found out that our nearest galaxy, the Andromeda galaxy, will collide with our Milky Way galaxy in a mere 3 to 5 billion years!!

This opportunity was organised by Jamie Jones, a student undertaking an Honours Module in Communicating and Teaching Science in conjunction with Madras College and the University of St Andrews.

Art Inspires Creative Writing

In November pupils from Mr Hynes' Creative Writing Activity Class participated in a writing workshop delivered by the Museum Collections Unit of the University of St Andrews. Workshop leaders brought in modern art samples from their collection which were used to stimulate writing and discussion. Pupils also produced some great labels for the artworks which will be on display at the launch of the exhibition.

Football

- Under 18 football won six games out of seven and are now in the fourth round of the Scottish Cup.
- Under 16s lost in the third round in the Scottish Cup at Fraserburgh Academy: 2-0.
- Under 14s lost 8-4 to Glenrothes High School in the third round of the Scottish Cup.



INFORMATION

Fife Council

School Closure Information for Parents

As early as possible on the morning of severe weather or other situations such as water, heating and building problems, there will be an update of what information is available and that parents can access from their home. Further updates will be given throughout the day.

- Sign up for School Closure Alerts on Fife Direct (www.fifedirect.org.uk/Doitonline) and look for school closure alert
- E-mail alerts on closures to your personal account
- Facebook - Go to www.facebook.com/fifecouncil
- Twitter - Go to www.twitter.com/fifecouncil
- FifeDirect online website
- Radio bulletins - we contact Kingdom FM (95.2 and 96.1), Radio Forth (97.3), Radio Tay (102.8 and 96.4) every time there is a change in service
- Television bulletins - STV and BBC
- Online news sites - especially the BBC
- Daily press including the Courier
- Automated telephone closure line on 08451 55 11 99 and choose from the options given
- Mobile phone service - <http://lookinglocal.gov.uk/LookingLocal/>
- Digital Television (Red Button on Sky and Virgin Media under Interactive Services, Local Services)

HOLIDAYS

Christmas

Monday 26 December 2011 to Friday 6th January 2012

February (two days)

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February 2012

Easter

Monday 2nd to Friday 13th April 2012

May Day

Monday 7th May 2012

June (single day)

Monday 4th June 2012

Summer

Friday 29th June to Friday 10th August 2012

IN-SERVICE DAYS

Monday 9th January 2012

Wednesday 15th February 2012

Tuesday 5th June 2012

EXAMINATIONS

S5/6 Prelims

Monday 16th January to Friday 27th February 2012

S3 Exams

Friday 27th April to Monday 14th May 2012

SQA Exams

Wednesday 25th April to Friday 8th June 2012

Please note the S4 Art exams are week beginning 25th April 2011

PARENTS' EVENINGS

S1 Tuesday 21st February 2012

S2 Wednesday 9th May 2012

S3 Tuesday 22nd May 2012

S4 Thursday 9th February 2012

Standards and Quality Report Summary 2010-2011

and

School Improvement Plan 2011-2014

Madras College

Achievements

Successful Learner

Above national level performance in SQA examinations'
Success in Duke of Edinburgh Awards,
Success in local and national competitions

Confident Individual

Drama performances, Concerts
Blueprint magazine
Success in debating competitions and many sports

Responsible Citizens

Work for charities
EcoClub projects
Regular diary page in the Citizen
Regular meetings of year and whole school councils

Effective Contributors

Participation in St Andrews Day service
Exchanges with 4 countries
Pipe band performances at major events
Substantial amounts raised for charities



Priorities for 2011-2012
Attainment, Curriculum for Excellence
Improvement through Self-evaluation

Consultation Process

Consultation has taken place with pupils, parents and staff via surveys and meetings. Analysis of SQA examination results have also been taken into consideration. In February 2010 the school conducted an internal review led by newly appointed DHT and supported by Fife Council's Education Officers. In 2011 we were peer reviewed as part of developing practice in our Cluster.

What Outcomes have the School Achieved?

We have overtaken all the development priorities identified for 2010-11. By the end of S2 maths and science results are in line with expectations from P7. By the end of S4: 5 or more awards at SCQF level 5, attainment was above the national pattern. By the end of S5: 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better was well above the national pattern, 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better was well above the national pattern, 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better was above the national pattern and 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better was above the national pattern. By the end of S6: 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 7 or better was well above the national pattern, our two Scottish Languages Baccalaureate pupils were both awarded grade A and in Science a grade B, 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better was above the national pattern, 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better was above the national pattern, 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better was above the national pattern, 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better was well above the national pattern. English and Maths award at SCQF Level 3 or better in 2011 was in line with the national pattern.

How Well does the School meet the needs of the School Community?

Our learners are motivated, willing participants in their learning. They are responsible and contribute actively to the wider life of the school. They know that their views are sought and acted upon. They have appropriate opportunities to express their views. Groups representing parents are helpful to the school. Attendance at parents' meetings is high. Staff have a shared understanding of what constitutes high quality education and many volunteer to take part in working groups.

How Good is the Education that the School Provides?

We respond to and meet the needs of our learners. We share the purposes of lessons with learners who know what they need to do in order to improve. We ensure that learners have opportunities to take responsibility for aspects of their own learning and their relationships with others. Individualised support programmes and coordinated support plans contain appropriate learning targets. Learners' achievements in the community are valued and celebrated in school. We have been trained and are confident in child protection issues. Our school has clear procedures for vetting adults who work with children. We pay particular attention to the needs of learners at times of transition.

How Good is Management within the School?

Our accommodation generally provides a safe environment but is in need of replacement. In Kilrymont we meet statutory duties on accessibility for disabled users. Some ICT resources are up to date but there is a lack of interactive white boards. Our resources are generally well organised and are used well to support learning and teaching. We monitor and evaluate the use of resources to ensure that the needs of all our learners are met.

How Good is Leadership within the School?

We focus on learning and teaching as the key to school improvement. We create, improve and review our structures for management, learning and support to build positive relationships. We use partnership working and teamwork to develop secure continuous improvement. We have a supportive work environment in which most people share a responsibility to improve the quality of learning and teaching.